

101/1/7/25/207 277
23 Lynton Road,
KLOOF,
Natal.

8th February, 1963.

Dear Mollie,

I am writing to ask if you can do me a favour in regard to the Hofmeyr biography. You will be glad to hear I reached August 1947 yesterday. But I cannot find the answer to three questions in any of our Natal papers, but I think they would almost certainly be found either in the STAR or RAND DAILY MAIL. The questions are these:-

- (a) On May 17, 1945, Smuts sent a cable from San Francisco, congratulating HOFFIE on his wonderful Victory broadcast. I don't want the whole address, only the main points, and some quotations. If the quotations show H. as a bit florid, that doesn't matter.
- (b) On April 1, 1947, the King and Queen visited Johannesburg. Was Smuts there? Hofmeyr was almost certainly there. How did King and Queen enter Johannesburg? Were they housed in the Royal Train? What did they do that day? (I assume there was only one day) What size were the crowds? Any speeches? Anything else of interest. The important thing about this is that HOFFIE thought Smuts obtruded himself too much into the Royal Tour. But if Smuts left Johannesburg to H., one must modify the story.
- (c) After the U.P. defeat on May 26, 1948, Rayner Ellis launched several bitter attacks in the RDM against H. Can you get them? They might extend over several months.

Love to you and Leslie.